

Success at Southern/TRIO-SSS Newsletter – 2nd Edition / March 2021



Student question: What is SSS?

SSS stands for **Student Support Services**. As you may know many levels of TRIO programs exist, such as McNair for undergrads seeking admission into graduate programs, Talent Search for at risk high schoolers, and Upward Bound for high school students seeking admission into college. SSS is for students working on completing a college degree. When we write TRIO-SSS we are referring to a specific TRIO program, this is very helpful when there is more than one TRIO program on a campus, such as SOU's TRIO-SSS program and SOU's McNair program.

Since 1965 TRIO programs have helped America's low-income and first-generation college students access and complete higher education. **What began as 3 programs at fewer than 1,000 project sites are today 8 programs at nearly 3,000 project sites.** This includes projects in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and other jurisdictions (e.g. Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Northern Mariana Islands, etc.). TRIO programs provide services to students throughout the education pipeline, as early as middle school, through the doctorate degree.

The TRIO name itself was born when the Higher Education Act of 1965 was amended in 1968 to include the Special Services for Disadvantaged Students program—what is now called Student Support Services (SSS). Upward Bound, Talent Search and SSS formed a TRIO of federal programs designed to foster increased educational opportunity and attainment. Since 1968, the TRIO programs have been expanded to provide a wider range of services. Today, eight TRIO programs are included under the TRIO umbrella.

The Federal TRIO Programs (“TRIO”) are a set of educational opportunity programs that enable students from low-income backgrounds to become the first members of their families to earn college degrees. Currently serving more than 800,000 students from middle school through adult education, TRIO provides academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary to promote college access, retention, and graduation. Since its inception, TRIO has helped more than 5 million Americans earn college degrees.

Southern Oregon University has the privilege to host two TRIO programs. Since 1994, **Success at Southern/TRIO Student Support Services (SSS)** program has committed to increase the college retention, academic standing and graduation rates of eligible participants. By providing a variety of services to meet students' needs, we assist eligible participants in clarifying their goals, succeeding academically in their chosen program of study, and graduating with a bachelor's degree in a timely manner. TRIO-SSS at Southern Oregon University is one of the 23 TRIO-SSS programs in Oregon. On the other hand, since October 2003, **TRIO Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (MCN)** has prepared undergraduate students from underrepresented segments of society to achieve success in graduate programs and to develop scholars capable of succeeding in research-intensive doctoral study, thereby increasing attainment of research-intensive doctoral degrees awarded to students from historically underrepresented groups. TRIO Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (MCN) is one of the 3 TRIO Ronald E. Mc Nair programs in Oregon.

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**Booking via Navigate - Success at Southern/TRIO-SSS Online
Advising Services-**

Did you know that you can book an advising appointment using EAB Navigate? You can now see your TRIO-SSS Advisors availability and pick the time you would like meet. The Navigate app can also help you book appointments with your SSC, faculty, and other campus resources. The app helps faculty and staff share notes and send students information regarding their account, such as holds and registration dates. You will start to see that Navigate will be more and more prominent on campus. TRIO-SSS is using the Navigate app currently and ask that you use this platform to book advising appointments with TRIO-SSS. You can find a video tutorial from our website showing you how to book an appointment with your TRIO-SSS advisor below. You can also find the link to your advisors' bookings at the bottom of their signature. <https://inside.sou.edu/success/schedule.html>

Due to COVID-19 – TRIO-SSS will be closed to all walk-in traffic until further notice.

Success at Southern/TRIO-SSS Online Tutoring Services

Tutoring Services are offered in a variety of subjects for students participating in the Success at Southern/TRIO-SSS program. Tutors support Success at Southern/TRIO-SSS students with coordination of homework, planning for tests, supplemental instruction, to name a few. TRIO-SSS tutors include Writing, Technology Assistance, STEM, Math, Health Education, Study Skills, Spanish and others. Please visit our website for current listing.

Tutoring Information:

- This year we have added a new writing agreement. In order to meet with a writing tutor, you need to complete the writing agreement and send it to our writing tutor. Please see our website for specific instructions.
- Best practices include meeting with a writing tutor before you start writing anything. As soon as you get your assignment bring the instructions to a meeting with our writing tutor and work out an outline.

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- Regardless of what tutoring you are seeking please be prepared for tutoring sessions. Sit in a comfortable quiet place, have pen and paper ready with your study materials.
- Have a tutoring goal; “by the end of this tutoring session I want to have read the instructions with my tutor for my Spanish 101 assignment”.
- Online tutoring is not a drop off service. You will need to be online to meet with the tutor and participate in the tutoring process.

Spring Term Tutoring Services began on April 05, 2021

Due to COVID-19 – TRIO-SSS will be closed to all walk-in traffic until further notice

TRIO-SSS will provide online tutoring services during Spring 2021

For more details and book an appointment you can visit

<https://inside.sou.edu/success/tutoring.html>

A message from one of our TRIO-SSS tutors ...

Hi! My name is Joye Otto, and I'm the professional writing tutor. I've worked in education, and in particular, college students for about twenty years. I'm here to help you with any writing assignment you may have - not just English courses or assignments. I can help you plan your paper, create a discussion depth or get more out of your reading assignments. I'm happy to be with the TRIO-SSS program and am looking forward to meeting more of you!

For more details and book an appointment with Joye or one of our peer tutors visit <https://inside.sou.edu/success/tutoring.html>

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TRIO-SSS Orientation and LASSI

New students to the TRIO-SSS cohort 2020-2021 have been asked to take an orientation with TRIO-SSS staff and complete the LASSI prescriptions. This is a reminder that new students need to complete both orientation and LASSI to remain active in TRIO-SSS. The final orientation will be held on March 22nd (Spring Break) from 9-11am over zoom. Several other orientations were held through the year. Orientation is a time where we come together and discuss expectations and answer questions. In each orientation students meet all the TRIO-SSS staff, tutors, and review the process for booking an appointment with both TRIO-SSS staff and tutors.

LASSI (**L**earning **A**nd **S**tudy **S**trategies **I**nventory) is an academic learning assessment that helps identify areas of concern/challenges. Students complete the LASSI assessment and then review the results with their TRIO-SSS advisor during the initial PEP. Advisor and student agree on the appropriate prescriptions to complete. Students should have completed their prescriptions by April 2021. Students will be asked to complete a final post assessment with LASSI to measure growth in May, 2021.

Again, the orientation and LASSI are for new students, admitted Fall 2020, Winter 2021, or Spring 2021. If students from previous years wish to attend orientation or complete the LASSI, please email your TRIO-SSS advisor and let them know. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the student's TRIO-SSS advisor.

Evaluate our TRIO-SSS services

You now have the opportunity to evaluate your **TRIO-SSS advising sessions** and **TRIO-SSS tutoring sessions**. Recordings can be anonymous and completed through google forms. Comments are used to improve services. **Look for the evaluation titled “Rate your service experience here” in your advisor’s signature. TRIO-SSS tutoring evaluations will be emailed to you throughout the term.**

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May Registration

All students should be registered for Spring Term 2021 by now. **Registration for Fall 2021 begins in early May, just a month into spring term. April is the best time** to meet with your faculty advisor and your TRIO-SSS advisor to plan for Fall Term 2021 and remove any advising holds. This is also a good time to work on finding a summer internship or job.

Summer Term 2021 classes are now open. **If you plan on taking summer classes** please reach out to your financial aid officer to determine if you have funding options for summer. Many students take summer classes at RCC; please let your advisor know if you plan on taking summer at another institution.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

All FAFSA/ORSAA for 2021-2022 should be completed. If yours's is not completed reach out to your TRIO-SSS advisor for help. The FAFSA/ORSAA is critical to your funding for next year. Yes, even if you are graduating this Spring Term 2021 you need to complete the 2021-2022

FAFSA/ORSAA one last time. Many scholarships require that you complete the FAFSA/ORSAA. The 2022-2023 FAFSA/ORSAA will open in October, 2021 for the following academic year.

Math Placement Test @TRIO-SSS Lab

Attention TRIO-SSS students who need to take the Math Placement Test. **During Spring Term 2021, TRIO-SSS will be offering you the chance to take the Math Placement Test In-person (by appointment only) in the TRIO-SSS Lab.** TRIO-SSS lab will be open on **Wednesdays from 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm, starting April 14th**. If you need to take the Math Placement Test and would prefer to do so in person **please contact Samantha Eaton at eatons@sou.edu to reserve a time slot.**

If you **have not taken the Math Placement Test or your placement is about to expire, we strongly encourage you to take the Math Placement Test this Spring Term 2021**, so you can register for Math in the Fall Term 2021. **Math Placement Test results expire one year from the date you took the exam.** Remember registration opens in May, 2021 so the best time to take

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the Math Placement Test is in April, 2021. If you have questions or concerns please reach out to your TRIO-SSS advisor. *This is an exclusive opportunity for TRIO-SSS students.*

Have a story you want to share? Email us at eatons@sou.edu with the subject line TRIO-SSS Newsletter. We are here to support, help, encourage, teach, and inspire you, as well as learn from you.

Stay tuned for our next edition –

Next publication coming to your email in Fall Term 2021.

Your Success at Southern /TRIO-SSS Staff Team

